



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

G2-P.1.

Copies sent to
 AD/NE, AD/C1,
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 9 June 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY OF STATE
 ATTN: Special Assistant, Intelligence

7-6231

DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

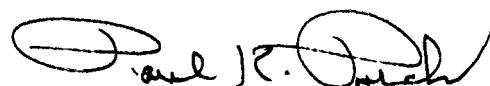
SUBJECT: Further Information on the Juin Affair

1. The following summary of information received from the Army Attaché, Paris subsequent to our memorandum of 6 May is forwarded for your information.
2. Recent developments such as the Geneva Conference, and the Indo-China situation have relegated the Juin affair to the background. However, had Marshal Juin been replaced in his NAMC command by Gaulle or another general officer, the agitation might have recommenced. Although many top ranking officers expressed their criticism of the government's action in relieving Marshal Juin of his French military positions and expressed contempt for the Government, the Attaché does not believe that they would support a coup over this situation. The Attaché furnishes new information that Marshal Juin and General de Gaulle are reported to have met daily, in the early days of the affair. He discounts the likelihood of collaboration between the two for political purposes, due to their differences of positions and personality. The Attaché further feels that although there could be widespread Army support of de Gaulle's opposition to LDC, he is not admired as a man and potential leader and that the Army, like the country, will not support de Gaulle in any future political action. The Army, as a whole, is still out of politics, though some officers, as individuals, might circulate anti-government stories. The situation has been discussed with G-2, SIME, who states that French officers there were extremely circumspect in their comments on the affair. The Attaché concludes that the Juin affair has run its course unless some action on the French or other NAMC nation reopens the problem. He comments, however, "We do regret a display of intransigence by the French Army in this case..... We regrettably note that this action has revealed a possible instability or unreliability of the French military leaders."
3. The Army Attaché based his remarks on various conversations with French officers in command and staff positions.

Army review(s)
 completed.

4. Other information available to G-2 indicates that the Marshal and the General are not as distant and uncongenial as the Attache indicates, and that they may be capable of joining forces in a cause that they believe to be for the good of the country.

5. Unable to determine downgrading date.



PAUL K. PORCH
Colonel, GS
Acting Deputy A. C. of S., G-2



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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Possible Repercussions of the Juin Affair (U)

1. The following is a summary of information received from the United States Army Attaché in Paris, and is forwarded for your information.

"It is believed that the current attitude of the French Army borders on mutiny because of the disciplinary action taken by the Government against Marshal JUIN. The comments from officers in many different official positions, whom it is known are not in daily contact, all expressing a remarkably similar view, is the basis for this statement. Each of the officers has dwelt at length on the impropriety of officials in governments as transient as those of the Fourth Republic, to discipline a man whose more than forty years of service were crowned by elevation to "Marshal of France." The remark is heard that there are many dozens of ministers, but only one Marshal. We recognize French nationalism as extremely volatile, and that this controversy will probably "simmer down" but we believe it important to point out the rapidity with which this unified feeling of resentment pervaded the officer corps."

This subject is complicated by the lack of a legal statement on the prerogatives of the rank of "Marshal" in France. To the Army, this rank is very exalted and is regarded with a feeling of almost reverence, and any "interference" with one holding the rank is therefore almost desecration. The Attaché believes that the majority of the military is solidly behind Marshal Juin in this controversy. He also notes that the person of Marshal Juin and his actions have not always coincided with the exalted position in which he has been placed.

"This office is deeply concerned over the effect that this affair may have upon the morale and the discipline of the French Armed Forces. If it is true that the French military are in a rebellious mood, the effect upon the life of the LANIEL Government, ratification of EDC, and most importantly, the future of NATO, is obvious. The apparent disbelief in the subordination of the military to civilian control which denies or overlooks the practical aspects of the case, causes one to form a derogatory opinion of the stability or reliability of the leaders of the French military forces.

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Army

CONFIDENTIAL**6 MAY 1954**

"If, in their efforts to gain vindication for Marshal JUIN, the French military blindly and stupidly lend their support to the overthrow of the LANIEL Government, the effect upon EDC will be disastrous. If the French military should be faced with the appointment of someone other than a Frenchman to replace JUIN as Allied Commander, Central Europe, it is feared that this rebellious spirit will be increased. The loud screams of the press would be encouraged by the French military, and again repercussions within NATO could well be disruptive."

2. Comment: G-2 does not consider that a military coup is likely. It is true that the military hold a marshal in very high regard and generally do not greatly respect the Governments but they have also accepted the idea of civilian control of the Government. Further information has been requested from the Army Attaché and any further pertinent information received will be furnished you.

3. Unable to determine downgrading date.



P. K. PORCH
Colonel, GS
Acting Deputy ACoS, G-2

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